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"God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are ready to guard and defend it."—Daniel Webster

Nevada City Nugget

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Thinking Out Loud

By H. M. L.

We often hear the slogan, "Food will win the war and the peace." We believe it even though we have become exceedingly wary of slogans in this land where a good slogan has more power than an army corps. The international body which will have power of life and death in its hands after the war, will be that one which seeks to coordinate the world's food resources so that a more equal distribution is attained than has been the case in the past.

A famine anywhere on earth, in these modern times under normal conditions, is a yellow brand of shame on the brow of civilization. We do except such a famine as now afflicts Bengal, for the reason that war disrupted the usual food sources and distribution the Bengalese normally depend upon. The Japs robbed Burma of the rice that had for many years found a market in Bengal.

We recall many years ago during a famine in the Chinese province of Hupeh, that Robert Dollar, who was a great humanist and philanthropist, hurriedly loaded several of his steamships with wheat and rushed it into the stricken area. To this day we don't know whether he was paid or not; he might have been because the Chinese looked upon him as a friend above all other occidentals and quite naturally they would want to see him paid at least the cost of this quick relief. Incidentally the Chinese had a hard time learning to use wheat as a food, but it did save some hundreds of thousands of them.

But when this war is over, it wont do to depend upon men of Robert Dollar's character to relieve famine. The earth is abundantly able to produce food, not only for its present population but much greater populations. After the war one of the first requisits, of peace, as we see it, is to provide for such a distribution that famine will be impossible. Out of famines and food shortages are born revolutions and war. To keep the peace, the world peace, the first need is to supply adequate food to all earth's children.

In this connection we are reminded of a letter which recently came from one of our boys in Italy. He said that in that country, which was a civilized nation long before England was, the farmers were still stirring the soil with a wooden plow drawn by oxen. Now it will be noted that in this country, only about one seventh of the population is engaged in producing food. That is perhaps the primary reason we have become the greatest industrial producers — meaning gadgets, steel girders, automobiles, ships, and planes—on earth. In Italy our guess would be that a good half of the population is still engaged in producing food.

This leads us to the thought that our greatest contribution to world peace and well being could be a series of agricultural missions to backward countries, such as Italy, Greece, all the Near East, China, India and parts of Africa. If these people could learn the lesson of food production at half the cost, it would release a good many millions of workers for other industries, which in the sum total, give us a higher standard of civilized living. We do not mention Russia in this connection, though we might have done so ten years ago. It is quite obvious that Russia is on its way up, with a rush. We will willingly prophesy that not for a hundred years will Russia suffer another famine. When the war is over and Russia is settled down to peace time living, we predict it will become one of the world's greatest producers of food.

Africa, South America and Australia, all have latent food producing possibilities, which, as a result of war's prodding and peace demands, may soon become actualities.

SAN FRANCISCO REPUBLICANS GET QUESTIONNAIRE

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—Determined to give increasing recognition to rank and file opinions within the party, the Republican County Central Committee of San Francisco has mailed a poll questionnaire to more than 10,000 of the city's registered Republican voters.

Acting for the committee, Chairman Herbert Hanley, asks for a preference vote as to the actual presidential candidate favored from among the following names: Bricker, Dewey, MacArthur, Saltonstall, Stasson, Warren and Willkie.

The second questionnaire reads: "In the event that the California primary republican field narrows down to two men, Warren and Willkie, which man would be your choice?'

Final query covers willingness of the addressees to sign as sponsors, the nominating petition of their favorite candidate.

"This sponsor list," Hanley explained "will be made available to the candidate or his authorized campaign committee immediately after totalization of the poll."

"The committee is conducting this poll," Hanley continued, "because we believe that only by this method an we get a true picture of rank and file sentiment and thus be consistently representative of party opinion. It is aimed against no one and implies hostility to no candidates. Only those who fear its results and are supersensitive to a degree unique in politics can or will regard it as an unfriendly act."

STATE CHAMBER URGES POSTWAR SHIP INQUIRY

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3. — Development and maintenance in the postwar period of a stronger and more adequate American Merchant Marine, under private ownership, is strongly advocated in a communication forwarded to Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, by James Mussatti, general manager of the California state chamber of commerce.

Admiral Land is urged by the state chamber to appoint a broadly representative committee whose membership is to be drawn from governmental agencies concerned, every branch of the shipping industry, and others interested in foreign and domestic water borne commerce. The purpose of the committee would be to undertake an immediate investigation of postwar shipping problems and to submit recommendations for the development and maintenance of a powerful American Merchant Marine.

"The planning in respect to an American Merchant Marine to meet postwar needs is a matter of special significance to California and the Pacific Coast," Mussatti said. "For this reason, the California State chamber offers its full cooperation in any program undertaken to obtain this objective.

100 OCTANE GASOLINE PLANTS NOW NUMBER 34

Eleven more 100octane aviation gasoline plants have been placed in operation during the past three months, bringing the total aviation gasoline projects now open to 34, Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes has announced.

During the early part of 1944 another 38 plants will go into operation.

Faced with these developments which will result in more and more fuel for the war effort and less for the civilians, the OPA this week took further steps to enlist the help of patriotic citizens in stamping out illegal sales of gasoline.

"It's easy to endorse your coupons, but it's tough on the black market," is the message which OPA soon hopes to bring home to every motorist.

Simultaneously banks handling ration banking accounts for gasoline distributors are being asked to report suspicious coupons and to refuse to accept for deposit gummed sheets of coupons which are not completely endorsed.

Further measures to combat the transference of stolen coupons are being drafted, but OPA insists individual motorists can do the biggest part of the job of stamping out the misuse of gasoline which directly sabotages the war effort.

TWO THIRDS OF COUNTY TAXES IN TREASURY

An admirable report of taxes collected for the 1943-44 period has been compiled by Miss Elma Hecker county treasurer and tax collector. Of unusual note is the fact that approximately two thirds of the entire county assessment tax was received at the treasurer's office before the expiration of the December 6 deadline. This period, usually defined as the "first installment" period, witnessed an unusual number of in-full payments.

The total tax to be collected in 1943-44 amounts to $432,110.33. Up to and including December 6 the pay ments reached a total of $288,796-.47, leaving a 'second installment' balance of but $143,313.86. The second installment payment period becomes delinquent on April 20, 1944.

FIELD MAN OF AUTHORITY PRAISES CENTER

Roy C. Votaw, field representative for the Division of Delinquency Prevention, California Youth Authority, made an inspection of the club rooms and work of the Grass Valley Recreation Center and later expressed high praise for conduct of the institution and the interest shown. He highly commended the city council for installing and maintaining the club, the overseers who contributed their services and the use made of it by the youths of the community.

"The Grass Valley center is one of the best I have found anywhere and one of the comparatively few maintained in the smaller cities," Votaw said. "The city authorities and the people are to be congratulated upon the step taken. It is an institution to be proud of."

GEN. ELECTRIC SAVES PYRAMID OF PURE TIN

Tin to coat enough food cans to make a pyramid a city block in size and as high as the Empire State building has been saved by the General Electric Company since Pearl Harbor, through a special campaign throughout its numerous war plants.

By reducing the percentage of tin in solders and alloys, the company has saved 850,000 pounds of tin, or enough to coat 825,000,000 cans on both sides.

Before the war solders and alloys were high in tin content, but a year before the 1942 WPB order limiting solder content to 30 per cent, General Electric introduced a 20 per cent general purpose tin solder. Babbit alloys, which formerly contained more than 83 per cent tin, are now restricted to 12 per cent and G.E. has developed such an alloy containing only one per cent tin.

FIRST SNOW OF YEAR

Nevada City's first snowfall beban Sunday afternoon, the huge flakes melting almost as fast as they fell for a time. During the night another fall of snow added to the white blanket on the ground to give a half inch. Rainfall for the three days of January amount to 2.07 inches and for the month of December there was a rainfall of 10,62 inches. Total for the period is 12.69 inches.

Programs, Gifts, Appreciated By Veterans in Hospitals

The Laymeth Club meeting this evening at dinner in Wesley Hall, will hear Lieut. H. G. von Over, an officer of the Royal Netherlands Flying Force, now visiting in Grass Valley. Von Oven is a graduate of Cambridge, England. He will choose his own topic.

Carol Choir Sings At Hospital

The Grass Valley Carol Choir visited the Nevada County Hospital Sunday afternoon and gave a concert of Christmas songs for the inmates. Arrangements for this annual event were completed by Harold George director of the choir, and Alvah Walthers, superintendent of the hospital. While the membership of the choir has been affected by war conditions, approximately 30 voices were heard Sunday.

Charles H. Lambert Dies Of Heart Attack

Charles Hugh Lambert, following a severe heart attack in Grass Valley last Wednesday, passed away at a local hospital Saturday afternoon.

Lambert was a native of Germany, 63 years of age. He came to the United States with his parents at the age of 11. He had been a bookkeeper most of his life. Little was known of him in Grass Valley where he resided.

Holmes Funeral Home is in charge of the remains. An effort is being made to locate relatives.

Funeral Services For The Late Roy Jobe

Funeral services will be held this afternoon in the chapel of Hooper and Weaver Mortuary for the late Roy Jobe, who passed away in Stockton Saturday morning. Rev. Mark Pike and Adjutant Helena Sainsbury of the Salvation Army will conduct the service. Interment will be in the Greenwood Cemetery.

Jobe was a native of Grass Valley 38 years of age. He had been ill for four years. For many years he was engaged in plumbing and lived with his family in Yosemite Valley. He leaves a wife and five children, who reside in Stockton.

New Type Life Raft Designed For Seamen

An improved type of life saving raft has been developed by several companies throughout the country for the use of merchant seamen torpedoed, bombed or shelled at sea. The raft carries a sail, berth beds for injured men, fishing tackle and may be equipped with a stove for cooking sea food, according to the American Merchant Marine Institute.

The raft not only has emergency rations, but also carries nearly every type of first aid equipment which might be needed after a disaster. The first aid kit includes bandages, compresses, boric acid ointment, tourniquets, forceps, eye dressings, sufnanilamide crystals, benzedrine and phenobarbital. Instruction for the use of all are printed on the packages which are inclosed in water tight transparent covers.

100 Per Cent Penalty If Motor Vehicles Not Registered by February 4

Applications for blue and gold windshield stickers, denoting payment of 1944 automobile registration fees, will be received from motorists beginning today (January 3) at offices of the State Department of Motor Vehicles and of the California State Automobile Association.

The 1944 fees will be the same as those paid by motorists last year. Charts for determining fees for those whose 1943 registration certificates do not show the amount will be on display at service stations, and at auto clubs and motor vehicles department offices.

Mailing of application and fees, to save tires, gasoline and car wear, is urged. The 1943 certificate of registration, with correct address shown, constitutes application.

Midnight, February 4, is the dead line for registering motor vehicles. Starting on February 5, a 100 per cent penalty is added to the $3.00 registration fee and a 50 per cent penalty is added to the license fee.

Miss Jane Bennett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Bennett of Washington, D. C., is spending her vacation at the Bennett home on Pine street. Jane works for the Kaiser Co. in Richmond. With her is a friend from Richmond.

BRET HARTE INN NOTED HOSTELRY CHANGES HANDS

James C. Tyrrell, on Saturday announced the sale of the Bret Harte Inn in Grass Valley, a hostelry of 78 rooms for an approximate price of $60,000 to Harry Handlery, hotel man of Vallejo.

The transfer took place as of midnight, December 31st. The hotel, 25 years old, has been under Tyrrell's management since 1929.

For the present the management and the personnel that has made the Bret Harte Inn a well known name in the hotel world will continue to function and as far as the general public is concerned there will be but little outward evidence that a transfer has taken place.

The idea of a new hotel originated in a meeting of the chamber of commerce in 1917 and a committee was appointed to investigate the situation and make a report. There were several dynamic men on the board of directors at that time. The committee had among its workers Earl Taylor, Albert Mooser, James C. Tyrrell and several others who are no longer residents of Grass Valley. or have passed on. They formed a corporation. They engaged an architect, prepared a picture showing what the hotel would look like, and then the committee took subscriptions for stock.

The largest subscribers were G. W. Starr, C. E. Clinch, Benj, Hall of Nevada City, D. E. Morgan and C. H. Taylor. The largest common stock holder did not own more than 26 shares and it went from that to ten, to five, three, two and one half and one share. One hundred stockholders in all, and there are about that many today who will participate in the distribution when the legal and business details have all been cleared up.

The stock sold for $100 a share. Then the directors borrowed $40,000 to complete the property. Assessments were levied to pay off the mortgage and in a few years the corporation was out of debt.

The first lessee was Albert Bettens, who was then owner of the Hotel Sacramento. After some years he sold out to Edward Bedell, then operating the Clunie Hotel, who in turn sold out to Chas. Fraser, manager of the Senator Hotel at Sacramento.

The latter did not make a success of the venture and went through bankruptcy in 1929, in which year the directors took over and placed J. C. Tyrrell then postmaster, in charge. Under his management the hotel has had a considerable success.

The purchase of the adjoining home of Robert Johns was a valuable acquisition and it now constitutes the beautiful garden of the hotel. The parking lot was made out of the Ellis property and the portion now used as the garage was formerly the city jail and was purchased from the city.

The Bret Harte Inn as a local enterprise has passed, but the new management plans several improvements, so that nothing will be lost to the community by the change.

Harry Handley, the new owner, is a well established hotelman with headquarters in Vallejo, where he owns and operates two properties.

Within the last week or two he purchased the Hotel Woodland.

TABE BISHOP NEW RURAL MAIL CARRIER

Raymond Monk, rural mail carrier(yesterday delivered his last bagful. He has been a carrier on the Grass Valley postoffice staff for the past 12 years, three of which have been in the rural service. He resigns as of today to accept private employment.

Tabe Bishop, former service station manager, will fill the vacancy.

N. C.-G. V. SCHOOLS REOPEN

Public schools of Grass Valley and Nevada City reopened today. On account of the influenza epidemic the schools of both cities closed two days earlier than usual. It is now believed that the epidemic has spent itself insofar as the youngsters are concerned, though it still seems to be prevalent among adults.

S. P. TRAFFIC AT NEW HIGH FOR 4TH YEAR

A new all time traffic record was rolled up by Southern Pacific in 1943 for the fourth year in succession, it was revealed by President A. T. Mercier in a review of the company's activities in the second year of the war. A further increase is expected in 1944, it was stated, and the railroad will need more manpower and equipment to handle the still heavier load.

"Our personnel met the severest tests in the company's history but came through victoriously in every undertaking in 1943", Mercier declared. "New records were achieved by the nearly 100,000 Southern Pacific men and women in spite of a growing manpower shortage, now around 10,000, and a stringency of equipment necessitating the most intense utilization of locomotives and cars."

With more than 14,000 former employes now in the armed forces, manpower is Southern Pacific's greatest problem, according to the announcement. Some 4,000 women were enrolled to do work formerly performed exclusively by men, and about 7,000 Mexican track workers imported, all efforts to recruit this labor in the United States having failed.

Heavier loading of freight cars, quick uuloading at terminals, record breaking upkeep of rolling stock, and further installations of centralized traffic control to increase the capacity of single track were cited by Mercier among helpful factors in the handling of Southern Pacific's unprecedented traffic.

But the tremendous load in 1943 could not have been carried, he said without the practical and sustained cooperation of commercial and military shippers, and the government. The generous aid of the press in helping to explain the wartime problems of the railroads was also of great value, the railroad president said.

TRUCK LINES TO GET ENOUGH GAS

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3. — Assurance that essential transportation services of California will be provided with sufficient gasoline to carry on necessary operations is contained in a letter received yesterday from H. C. Arnot, director of Division of Motor Transport, Office of Defense Transportation, by James Mussatti, general manager of the California state chamber of commerce.

Common carriers, under the ruling, were limited to 75 per cent of the average of the last two months. In his communication to Arnot, Mussati expressed the state chamber's concern over the possible effect of curtailment of refinery production on common carrier operation and essential industries, particularly agricultural. He urged that sufficient gasoline be allowed to carry on such necessary operations.

In his letter to Mussatti, Arnot stated in part: "You may be assured that we, too, realize the seriousness of this situation, and the recommendation contained in the last paragraph of your communication has already been acted upon.

"Instruction are being given to our field offices today whereby, upon proper certification by our field offices to the gasoline supplier as to the essentiality of the particular carrier's operation, sufficient gasoline will be provided for the continuation of that operator's necessary services.

SEVENTEEN FOR DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gould entertained relatives at their home on the Tahoe Ukiah Highway recently. In the group were their sons, Robert Gould, and family, Hayward; Lee Gould and family, Oakland; daughters, Mrs. Wallie Wisdom and husband and Mrs. William Boyd and husband of Sacramento; granddaughter, Leslie Jones, Anchorage, Alaska; grandson, James Thomas and wife, Alameda. Son Capt. Leonard Gould, with U. S. fleet was not able to be present. A sister in law, Mrs. Norene McKee of Fortuna was also present for the reunion.

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H. M. LEETE - - - - - Editor and Publisher

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WE HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT

Action by the western production urgency committee of the War Production Board, again refusing approval for construction of the Friant-Kern canal of the Central Valley Project, comes as a disappointment not only to the southern San Joaquin area but to San Francisco.

Ever since San Francisco voters in the 1933 referendum gave the project the margin of votes necessary to make it a reality, San Francisco has taken a keen interest in the project's progress and San Francisco groups have done everything possible to hasten its completion.

Four times this year the San Francisco Board of Supervisors have gone to bat, together with a host of other groups in the area, to get Friant Dam, the Friant-Madera canal and the Friant-Kern canal cleared for construction. So have San Francisco's representatives in congress.

The latest turn-down by the War Production Board on the Friant-Kern project probably will only have the effect of intensifying the efforts of all the groups working for its completion, and in this they can count on the active participation of San Francisco.

JUST WONDERIN'

I wonder about prejudice
At this, the New Year season,
I wonder about justice too,
Fair mindedness and reason;
I think that I shall make at once
A New Year's resolution,
And for my bigotry and pride
Straightway seek absolution.

This is the time of year when business men take stock, list the merchandise upon their shelves, in warehouses and bring the inventories up to date. Materials are inspected, damaged and out moded goods discarded and new supplies ordered to take their places. It is often a strenuous job, this takeing of stock, but it's a necessary one and after it has been accomplished, the effect is usually pleasing and the merchant finds himself either in the black or in the red as the case may be. Anyway, he knows where he stands.

Isn't this a good time to take a few hours off and appraise the contents of the mind? Perhaps we would be surprised to find how many old ideas, held in stock for many years, might be discarded and replaced by those more in accord with the trend of th etimes, and more conducive to that state of human understanding and brotherhood which we all hope to acquire.

There are many forms of old intolerances and reasonless prejudices in America. I hope none of them have found sanctuary in your mind. Still, it would be wise to take stock. Prejudice is an insiduous evil and sometimes we find it hidden beneath better and brighter furnishings of the mind and when brought out into the light of reason, it is found to be woefully shop worn and moth eaten.

The worthlessness of many a hoarded prejudice is readily seen when we examine it thoughtfully and with the will to understand. Look at your own pet aversion and ask yourself, "how did I come by this thing? Who first filled my mind with the thoughts upon which it is founded? Is it grounded upon reason, justice and fair mindedness, or is it the product of old hatreds, baseless and often absurd intolerances?"

We do not like to see outbreaks of anti Semeticism or racial riots in our democratic America; these are evils taken from Hitler's own book of fanaticism. If allowed to grow and flourish here, they will inevitably lead to the same state of confusion, and destructive cruelty which has marked their growth in those lands which we are trying to bring back to the realm of decency and order. These emotions of racial hatred, must not be allowed to run riot in free America. If they should flare beyond control, they well might wreck the very structure of our own government and render as naught, the toll and sacrifice with which we have sought to rear the temple of freedom for all mankind.

"Once to every man and nation, comes the moment to decide." Now, at this season of the new year, let every man and woman in America, examine these ancient bigotries, see them for what they are and discard them forever. That way lies safety, for ourselves and for our nation.

Uncle Silas says: "If we fight among ourselves and indulge in orgies of racial prejudice instead of being known as a great democracy, America will become to her enemies, the great hypocrisy.—A. Merriam Conner.

BUREAUCRATS HAMPER SALE OF ROCK CRYSTALS

By WILLIAM G. OGDEN

I recently picked up a copy of the Mining and Engineering Journal. Prominently displayed upon the front cover were three quartz crystals attended by a ruler to indicate the individual size of each. The idea of course was to indicate to the prospecting fraternity what type of material they were to submit.

Being interested in all phases of mineralogy I proceeded to read the article covering this frontal display. It stated that quartz crystals were first on the list of strategics. And further, that our production was hardly adequate to our needs. The article attributed this condition, in one instance, to the fact that the prospectors failed to recognize the emergency and consequently were spending little time or effort to relieve this alarming situation.

Now I wonder just how many pounds of saleable crystal this naive babe in the woods, who so blithly wrote this statement, has personally produced to alleviate the shortage. Perhaps if he had taken time to investigate the circumstances facing an individual who would prospect for quartz crystals he would have been very reluctant to ask a man to devote his time and undivided attention entirely to this branch.

In the first place, can anyone inform me of the location of a mine given over wholly to quartz crystals? I can find no mention of a crystal mine in any government bulletin or works of Crystallogogy. Quartz crystals my friends, occur in three manners: First, loose in a cavity of rock in which they are formed; second, embedded in rock; third ,attached to the rock or to a mass of the same or to some other mineral. There were a number of crystals found in Northern California in ancient channel gold placers. Also, there were some nice specimens obtained in the hard rock of the gold workings of the Mother Lode. Of course if a person could mine gold and pick up an occasional crystal as a matter of secondary importance the situation would have its attractions. However we know gold now only as a mineral occurring in abundance in U. S. but mined only in foreign countries. Alas!

I cannot let the subject lapse at this point as there are several other extenuating facts that should be set forth.

How Washington Does It

In supposition you are fortunate enough to come into possession of a crystal. You send it to Washington where the government experts determine how much of it can be converted to their purpose. Regardless of what is extracted, what assurances do you have that the rest will be returned to you? Oftentimes a crystal may undergo the operation and still be sufficiently intact to bring an attractive price as a specimen to collectors.

I have been told of two instances that I shall relate to illustrate the point. One man sent in a crystal weighing 118 pounds. This immense crystal yielded 2 1-2 pounds of acceptable produce. Another person sent in a crystal weighing 103 pounds. This crystal yielded only 4 pounds. Either one of these crystals would have, in all probability brough more in net profit had they been retained and sold to a gem dealer or collector.

Ration Board Fails to Co-operate

The entire situation has been handled with gross ignorance, lack of foresight and complete unwillingness to attempt to cooperate or investigate with intent to temporarize or adjust the present restrictions. As an instance of the action of one ration board. I have the good fortune to be acquainted with a gentleman who has devoted a good many years to the pursuit of gem stones and crystals. His expeditions are guided by a thorough knowledge of geology, method of occurrence, and absolute understanding of his undertaking. His knowledge is founded on practical experience in the field which incidentally includes five years in Mexico. Yet when he applied to his ration board a board consisting of small business men and farmers, for a "B" book for sufficient gasoline to take to the desert to examine a potentially productive area, they refused him on the grounds that they could not issue the B book unless he had a "producing mine."

As the saying is, it is an ill wind that blows nobody good. Three days ago I was shown a letter from a crystal hunter to a friend in which he related an amazing find after two long years of fruitless labor. The find was made in the Pala district in San Diego County, which is a notorious gem country. It consisted of 2000 pounds of quartz crystals which the finder expresses as mostly consisting of acceptable material. In appreciation of a man who had the intestinal fortitude to persevere for two years for anything as will o'-wisp as a crystal pocket I sincerely hope every pound is acceptable. He certainly deserved the jackpot!

In event the shortage becomes too acute we have one ready source absolutely untapped. By appealing to the patriotic senses of that group of persons known as magicians, seers, fortune tellers and occulists, we may be able to iduce each of them to contribute his or her crystal ball to the cause.—California Mining Journal.

Miss Peggy Bettles Weds Richard James

Miss Peggy Jean Bettles and Richard James, both of Nevada City were married in the Episcopal Church in Reno, Nevada, Thursday morning, it was announced by Mrs. Gordon Bettles, mother of the bride.

The wedding was not a surprise to the many friends of the couple. Both were high school sweethearts. Following her graduation Mrs. James was a student in the College of the Pacific at Stockton. Her father Gordon Bettles, a mining engineer, has been a prisoner of the Japs in the Philippines for two years, and only last week the Bettles family received their first letter from him.

Richard James, the bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Nancy James of this city. He entered the U. S. Army more than a year ago but has been furloughed to work as a miner. He is employed in zinc mining at Hornitos, Calaveras County, After their honeymoon the young couple will live at Merced.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH ON THE AIR EXPLAINED

By JAMES LAWRENCE FLY
Chairman Federal Communications Commission

In the modern world, freedom of speech is not enough if it is not complemented by freedom to listen —which can be defined broadly as access for the general public to what is said by means of the mass medium for the dissemination of ideas and opinion—the radio.

Here in the United States—listeners are shackled by a few outmoded conventions which in reality the industry should never have inflicted on its audience.

One such restriction is the ban imposed by some stations and networks on the sale of time to groups and organizations and the discrimination against such groups or organizations imposed by others. This cooperatives small business men's associations, labor organizations and all sorts of other groups find it either difficult or impossible to buy time on the air.

A second restriction on free speech over the radio is the new but widespread ban against solicitation of membership over the air. Time can be bought for the sale of shoes and soap and sealing wax, cigarettes, beer, institutional good will, and cathartics. But time can't be bought or received gratis for the solicitation of memberships—except, of course, by mutual insurance companies. The very nature of the exception emphasizes the censorious quality of the rule.

I sometimes wonder what Samuel Adams and Tom Paine would have said, what scorhing phrases to depens would have devised, to describe a restraint on free speech which would have prevented them from soliciting members for the libertarian organizations before American Revolution.

One argument urged in favor of banning the sale of time for discussing controversial issues is that the radio is not merely a vehicle for free speech, it is also a means of amusement and entertainment, an advertising medium, a musical instrument, and many things besides. If time is sold for controversial discussions, it is asked how can radio continue to fulfill these other functions?

The answer, of course, is that selling time for the discussion of controversial issues does not mean selling all the time on the air for such discussions, or selling time for more discussion than the public wants to hear. If there is one principle more firmly established than any other in American radio, it is the principle of a well balanced program.

A second argument frequently raised against such sale of time is that the best financed groups would buy the most time, and hence that radio would become an instrument serving only one side of each issue —the side with the most money. I know we can, and must, rely upon the basic principle of fair and well-rounded discussion which I am sure radio is attempting to accomplish. Station licenses must inevitably exercise discretion, in order to insure that radio shall become the tool of no special group or interest.

The ban against selling time for controversial discussion serves to limit the time available for such discussion. When station managements —and advertisers—determine how much news and how much comedy to weave into their balanced program structure, building up a wide listening audience is their sole concern. But when they must determine how much time shall be donated for free discussion, another element necessaryily enters in—the need of revenues. Advertising revenue is the rock upon which the American system of broadcasting is built. Revenues must be broad enough and firm enough to support the entire broadcast system. The maintenance of broad, firm revenues necessarily limits the time which can be donated free of charge to discussion or to anything else; it especially limits the choice hours which can be donated.

Clearly the best way to eliminate this restraint on free discussion is to remove the ban on time sales. This need not mean, of course, that free time is to be refused for controversial discussions. This type of program is desirable and lack of broadcast income should not be a reason for denying listeners.

In addition to the obvious danger I perceive in the tratment forum programs are likely to receive, there is an additional danger in the handouts of free time. The poor relation who gets the free time cannot hope to attract the attention that the time buyer builds up—with his day by day bombardment. Furthermore, admitted to this inner sanctum because he has a product to sell, the buyer of time has in some cases injected his own philosophy into his program. At times it is subtly done; at other times it is quite obvious; at all times such propaganda should be properly labeled. We, as Americans, believe that to judge the validity of anyone's arguments, we have the right to know for whom he speaks. A symphony program with fifteen minutes of sponsored philosophy is objectionable to a good many listeners who have tuned in for the symphony.

So clumsy an attempt at indoctrination, undesirable as it is, does not equal the more insidious tactics of injecting the sponsor's ideas into a new broadcast as "news.' The stealth with which some so called commentators can move from the field of legitimate news into an appeal to the great virtues of the company and its principles and its ideas leaves all but the critically minded unaware of what has overtaken them.

Still another question in regard to free speech is raised by the recent discussion of the policies of one network regulating the expression of the views and opinions of its news analysts. Personal opinions should not, of course, be aired in the guise of news; but assuming competency, if the statements are properly labeled as opinion, I can hardly see the reason why they should not be aired.

I, myself, find several difficulties with limitations on commentators. The first is our old friend, free speech. It is little strange to reach the conclusion that all Americans are to enjoy free speech except radio commentaators ,the very men who have presumably been chosen for their outstanding competence in the field.

The ban on free comment by news analysists places them, and the radio industry, at a serious disadvantage vis-a-vis the newspapers and other media. Any policy that requires these men to mouth second hand opinions serves no purpose.

One point should be made clear—these are not government problems in the first instance. Government problems in the first instance. They are primarily problems for the industry itself to face and to solve in the best traditions of American free speech.—Christian Science Monitor.

BRAND NEW NATTY UNIFORMS

Grass Valley's police force appeared Wednesday in the brand new winter uniforms. The summer khaki was discarded for the winter blues.

The new uniforms carry accessories of dull brass buttons, white stripes at sleeve cuffs, full caps, whistle cords and black Sam Brown belts.

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BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL OUTLOOK FOR 1944

By ROGER W. BABSON

WHAT STOCKS TO BUY

Some industrial groups appear more attractive than others. Building stocks should benefit from the expected boom after the war. Johns-Manville, Lone Star Cement and the Eagle-Picher Lead hold prospects for good postwar earnings and liberal dividends. Flexibility of merchandising companies makes their stocks favorites. I have recommended American Stores, McCrory Stores, Kroger, Jewel Tea, General Shoe, United Stores 6% preferred and preferred A. The railroad and farm equipment groups ought to show better than average progress. Favorites include American Brake Shoe, General American Transportation, Baldwin and Harvester; although postwar prospects convince me that selected steel and iron issues hold appeal. U. S. Pipe Line and Foundry should benefit from building. Republic Steel $5 pfd. A offers liberal income. National Steel and Alleghany-Ludlum are sound issues. Electrical equipment should experience heavy postwar demand. General Electric is the outstanding leader.

BONDS, INTEREST RATES AND PREFERRED STOCKS

The government forbids a corporation to manipulate the price of its securities but the government is using artificial means to force down interest payment needed by widows, orphans and others dependent upon savings or life insurance. This is unfair. Government bonds dominate the high grade field. Corporates are being called in increasing amounts. Institutional investors and trustees have to bid very high on the few remaining corporates or buy governments. In view of the relatively greater risk in corporates, I favor confining high grade bond purchases to E F and G war series, preferably E. Otherwise, hold cash. Municipals are too high.

I expect no near term shift in interest rates. They may remain low as long as government financing must be carried on in large volume, or as long as restrictions are placed upon the expansion of business to meet civilian demands and the money hoard continues to grow. When the readjustment comes the investor should not be tied up in long term, low coupon bonds. Current yields on better grade issues have been forced down too low. Investors looking for liberal income are, therefore, buying cumulative preferreds. Such issues are also in favor with investors skeptical over the general trend of common stocks; but the field is very selective. My usual advice is to buy only first mortgage bonds or else common stocks of companies with no cumulative preferreds.

TAXES

There may be a small increase in 1944 taxes. This increase will hurt only a few industries through increased excise taxes. Income taxes, inheritance taxes, gift taxes, and probably corporation taxes will remain about where they are or lowered. Furthermore, 1944 may be the last year of tax misery. Taxes should begin to decline in 1945. Investors should especially keep in mind that —when excess profit taxes are eliminated—many corporations can make more money and pay more dividends with much smaller gross earnings.

POSTWAR JOBS

Men and women who left jobs to enter the armed forces should have no trouble getting jobs when they return. Those who entered the armchair forces at Washington or elsewhere may have real trouble with getting jobs. Men who were unemployed when they entered the armed forces will get postwar jobs based on their war record and behavior. Character and habits will be an important consideration. Men and women who left employers in the lurch to get more money or thrills may be left "high and dry" when the war is over. There will not be a good job for everyone after Germany cracks. In fact, there will begin to be unemployment when Roumania, Bulgaria or Hungary give up, which I expect fairly soon.

POLITICS AND INFLATION

Unless Germany collapses before August, Roosevelt will be re-nominated and probably re-elected. It looks now as if Willkie would be nominated if the Republican leaders believe Roosevelt has the election in the bag. This would be a good way of getting rid of Willkie forever. Another possibility is that Willkie may accept second place on the Democratic ticket. The Republicans will put their efforts upon Congress. In November, 1944, they should secure a good majority of the House and six more senators. When I look further ahead 1948 seems now like a good Republican year with Gov. Dewey the victor in case Willkie is not already president. During the 1948-52 term will come the next depression followed by a return of the Democrats in 1952. Then there will be more Socialistic experiments and the real inflationary period. In the mean time, we will have slowly creeping inflation until 1948; but nothing radical. After Roosevelt is reelected with a vice president satisfactory to him, I should not be surprised to see him resign to accept the head of the new World Organization whatever this may be. This could take place as soon as Japan is whipped—possibly in 1945.

HOW LONG WILL WAR II LAST?

Intelligent forecasts of 1944 business should be based upon some assumption as to the length of the war. If Germany is to crack within a short time, 1944 may be a very different year than if Germany should hold out until after our presidential elections in November 1944. Germany may collapse early in the year, but consider the following:

(1) Churchill is very close to Roosevelt. He desperately wants him re-elected. Knowing that only a continuation of the European conflict through October 1944, will assure this, he is not hurrying his second front.

(2) As the Republicans have not yet insisted upon "unconditional surrender," the German and Japanese people think their chances might be better with a Republican president—which is a temptation for them to hold out.

(3) Stalin is definitely waiting until after November 6, 1944 before making certain decisions and this will delay Germany's collapse.

(4) Although the Washington new deal group might do nothing to prolong the war merely to insure themselves another four years of power, yet they surely would not be adverse to others doing so.

(5) Generally good war news should feature 1944. The battle-hardened Russians should continue to drive the German hordes back. As we enter 1944 the war has rounded second base and is on the way home. As, however, I stated in my 1942 and 1943 annual forecasts, we should not expect an ending of the war, until gas, chemicals or bacteria bombs are used.

All of the above may be upset by the death or serious illness of Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin, Chiang or perhaps even Hitler in 1944.

NEEDED: MORE RESEARCH AND RELIGION

Businessmen are faced with three vitally important questions: (1) Is it time now to give up seeking war contracts and prepare plants for civilian goods output? (2) Should subcontracting be reduced by approximately 50% so as to be ready for civilian goods production? (3) Is all out production to utmost capacity the best course to pursue? My advice is: Continue to take all war subcontracts you can get provided it will not tie your plant up beyond election day next year. Stop further expansion plans now. Work research and post war planning departments over time. Give orders now for reconversion equipment.

Finally 1944 will see a continuation of the conflict between those two philosophical theories which are splitting civilization today. These may be expressed by the eternal question of whether man (1) is a spiritual being to be guided by the Ten Commandments; or (2) is a evolutionary animal permitted to follow the rules of the jungle even when possessing a college diploma and dressed in a tuxedo. If our first assumption, the one for which our churches stand, is adopted as a goal, the coming year can be the beginning of a glorious future. If the second, which too many educators are teaching, is allowed to grow ,then World War II may have been in vain. In the end, spiritual forces must overcome the material forces or civilization is sunk. The hope of a better postwar world lies with greater research and more religion.

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EXTRA GAS FOR CONVALESCENT SOLDIERS

To aid servicemen recuperating from illness or wounds received while on active duty, the OPA today announced that they may be issued special gasoline rations for use in traveling to and from their homes or other places of convalescence.

Where the use of an automobile will aid in a servicemna's recovery to health, the attending medical officer will provide a certification to that effect.

VITAL WORK STILL PENDING

By CONGRESSBAN CLAIR ENGLE

As congress recesses for three weeks much vital business is still pending before each house. Congress should not have recessed in my opinion without providing at least an a temporary basis for those thousands of veterans who are each month being mustered out of the service. It may take some time and work to prepare a bill which will be satisfactory to all and accomplisha just result on a permanent basis. But a temporary expedient could have been passed at this time which would have saved us the thought that some veterans are facing the Christmas season without having geen given a fair shake by their government.

As a part of any program for veterans must also come adequate hospitalization ,facilities for learning new trades and skills where service connected disability has deprived the veteran of the ability to follow his former employment, opportunities for finishing educations cut off by going into the service, and reemployment of all veterans. In addition, I like the California plan which gives a veteran a chance to buy a home. Our plan has not cost the taxpayers one cent—in fact there is about 8-million dollars in the fund now which represents profit. But it is a program which quickly takes the returning soldier back into the community on a permanent basis. Wars tend to promote a shifting itinerant population. Many of the young men now in the service have married; others will marry just as soon as they get out. In building a home in the communities of their choice they will take root and help to form the permanent stable people of those communities which have always been the backbone of our way of life. That should be encouraegd on a national basis, if possible, by a program similar to the one we have in California. I do not favor federal financing of such a program, but rather an underwriting of private credit perhaps on the same basis as the FHA. It is a matter which veterans' organizations in formulating their plans should give some thought.

The soldier vote bill is still before congress. I don't think anyone opposes giving the soldiers the right to vote. The rowing has all been over the mechanics of getting it done. The opposition to the Lucas Bill has been based upon a fear in certain quarters of letting the federal government get any control whatever over state elections. It should be possible to work out a bill which will give sufficient safeguards, if those are deemed advisable, and which will provide a simple and efficient method of giving the soldiers their right to vote. This should be taken up and accomplished as soon as congress reconvenes.

The hearings are now ended on the Japanese problem at Tule Lake. A report and recommendation will be forthcoming from the Dies sub-committee which held the hearings on the problem. Also the Pacific Coast delegations in the house have a committee which held hearings and are bringing out resolutions requesting the Department of Justice to take over Tule Lake, requesting the president to remove Dillon Myer, the National Director of War Relocation Authority, and appoint a new director with directions to make necessary changes in personnel and policy to insure efficient and economical use of government properly and sufficient security in the camps. Action will be taken after the first of the year on bills now pending before the house to forfeit the citizenship of the Japanese Americans who have declared their loyalty to Japan. As pointed out by Attorney General Biddle, this legislation will be very helpful in solving the whole problem because it will clarify the status of the Japanese now in the Tule Lake camp.

The predominant opinion in California favors the army taking over all the camps. That was opposed by some congressmen because they feared the Japs would then put all the camps in which they are holding our people under Japanese army control. The Japs are great mimics. They never rounded up our nationals until we moved all of the Japs to the Relocation centers. They immediately rounded up all our people, and in some instances copied us so far as putting them on race tracks as was done in some places in California. At thepresent time the camps in which the American civilians are held are not under Japanese army control. If by leaving our Jap camps under a civilian agency, we can help to keep the camps in which our people are held, under a civilian agency we should do it—that is the argument. Most of the congressmen felt that the argument had merit, and therefore recommended that Tule Lake be placed under control of the Department of Justice, which incidentally now runs the camps for dangerous enemy aliens in this country.

Soil Conservation Dist. Directors To Meet

The recently elected directors of the Nevada County Soil Conservation district will convene tomorrow morning in the Nevada Irrigation District Building in Grass Valley at 9:30 o'clock to organize. A secretary and chairman will be chosen.

The directors are Lewis Sleeman, Edward M. Marse, Henric Rolph, Clarence Cunningham and Clarence Gassoway.

Personal

Spencer White, son of Mrs. Millie White, returned to the mine at Happy Camp Wednesday after spending Christmas here with his mother and other family members.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Browning and children of Berkeley, and Mr. and Mrs. Douglass Gilbert and children also of Berkeley visited Mrs. Annie Browning in Nevada City and Mrs. Arno Browning of French Corral during the holidays.

Mrs. Clem Davis and daughter, Catherine, spent New Years week end in Sacramento as guests of Mrs. Davis' sister, Mrs. A. N. Wisker.

Owing to wet weather the Public Roads Administration which has been engaged in building a new road from Tahoe Ukiah Junction down to Washington, Nevada County, has abandoned the project until spring. The road was started by the WPA several years ago.

The road, when completed will be about five miles in length, a mile longer than the present road, but the grade will be much lower. The new route enters the Washington Creek canyon turns north at the Giant King mine and follows the creek into Washington.

Supervisor J. C. Coughlan, in whose district the road lies, has assisted the Public Roads Administration in its enterprise by lending the county road building equipment.

One of the chief reasons for building the new road is to expedite trucking baryte ore from the Spanish Mine ,a mineral used in lieu of white lead in paint, and as a colloid in drilling oil wells. The ore is now being trucked from the mine to reduction plants in Berkeley.

Since the adoption of the household fat salvage plan, more than 108,000,000 pounds has been salvaged. In 1944 it is hoped a quota of 230,000,000 pounds can be met.

Captain of Dutch Royal Air Force Rotary Guest Speaker

Completing its twentieth year of sponsorship of Christmas presents, decorations, and entertainment in the military hospitals in the Oakland area, the Veteran Hospitals Christmas Committee, today, was commended by the commanding officers of four army and navy hospitals for the success of this year's program.

"To the more than 800 organizations who hold membership in the Veterans Hospital Christmas Committee," said Captain F. W. Muller, USN, commanding officer of the U. S. Naval Hospital at Oakland, "I wish to express, in behalf of the personnel attached to this hospital, and the patients, our thanks and appreciation for your excellent Christmas program, and for the generous donation of time and talent of the hundreds of volunteers workers in aiding with the decorations and bringing the Christmas spirit to this hospital."

A similar commendation was expressed by Captain Robert P. Parsons, USN, commanding officer, U. S. Naval Hospital, Pleasanton; Col. A. E. McEvers, U. S. A. commanding officer, Oakland Area Station Hospital, U. S. A., and Dr. Charles Murphy, commanding officer, U. S. Veterans Hospital, Livermore.

Letters also have been received from many of the thousands of patients in the hospitals, according to Walter J. Lee, Veteran Hospitals Christmas Committee general chairman.

Expenses of the program, estimated at $30,000, were contributed by the member organizations of the committee, which include church, labor, school, veteran, women's, civic and social groups throughout the bay area and northern California.

The committee program included presents to every one of the thousands of patients in the four hospitals; decorations that included more than 700 trees, 6000 yards of garlands, 18,000 feet of wreaths, and 80,000 Christmas tree ornaments.

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day professional shows were staged at the four hospitals in wards and recreation rooms.

State Bar Acts to Defend Community Property

In two actions today, the State Bar of California continued its policy of defending the California theory of community property against alleged and threatened encroachments of federal revenue laws.

The first action was to authorize attorneys, as representatives of the state bar of California, as amici curiae—friends of the court—to sign and file a brief joined in by other state bar associations from community property states in the case of Fulourney vs. Wiened pending before the United States Supreme Court. The case involves the validity of certain provisions of the 1942 Revenue Act which allegedly run contrary to the community property laws of California and other states.

The second step was to register a protest to congress against certain proposed provisions making mandatory the filing of joint income tax returns by husband and wife in community property states.

The protest is in the form of a resolution which follows:

Whereas: the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California has been informed that various organizations, individuals, and/or agencies have proposed or intend to propose to the congress of the United States that joint income tax returns by husband and wife be made mandatory in states in which the so-called "community property law' affects the property rights of husband and wife and

Whereas: in the opinion of this board any such mandatory requirements would be a direct usurpation of the rights of the respective states to determine the status of the property of their citizens and residents and would constitute an encraoachment upon rights which under the federal constitution are reserved to the several sovereign states,

Now, Therefore, be it

Resolved: that the attitude of this board toward any such mandatory requirement of joint income tax return is as heretofore indicated, that this board hereby registers its protest against any such mandatory requirements and that the officers of this board be and they hereby are authorized to make known such attitude and protest by all appropriate means to the members of the congress of the United States and more particularly to the representatives therein of the State of California.

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WITH OUR BOYS IN GLOBAL WAR

Pfc. Robert James—

Mrs. Nance James, mother of Pfc. Robert James of the U. S. Marines, received a letter from him this week in which he states he has had a promotion and likes his new work much better, as private first class. He is in headquarters company in the South Pacific. He also told his mother he had been in Australia. A recent letter carried a picture of Bob and he looks wonderfully well.

Cpl. William James—

Cpl. William James, oldest son of Mrs. Nance James, has been transferred from near San Antonio, Texas to Kelly Field, in the same state. He is in the air corps.

Louis Butz —

Louis Butz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Butz, is home on a furlough from Camp Gordon, Ga. He is in field artillery.

Walter Butz—

Walter Zutz, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Butz, is in the air forces. He is sttioned at Grand Island, Neb.

James Thomas—

James Thomas, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gould, is now stationed at a base in Alameda. Thomas has made two trips overseas and was returned to the United States recently.

Staff Sergeant Don Stephens—

Don Stephens, son of George Stephens of Coyote street, expects to be home soon on a 30 day furlough. He has been in the U. S. air forces 21 months fourteen of which were spent in Iceland, the same base he flew from fourteen months before. George Stephens, suffered a severe heart attack recently while employed on the railroad. He is showing improvement.

Capt. Leonard Gould—

Leonard Gould, captain of a ship in the U. S. fleet, sent a holiday greeting to his parents last week from Haynes, Alaska. He had expected to be with family members in a reunion. He visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gould last May. His ship was in Seattle, Wash, he boarded a plane and came to Nevada City, visited one hour and fifteen minutes, then returned by plane and was on his ship the same evening.

Ensign H. M. Leete—

Harley Leete, stationed in the British Isles tells more of his impressions of Sotland and of a visit to Loch Lomond.

9:45 p. m.—Ho hum—here it it sack time and much water has gone through the pipes since this morning. When I knocked off the letter at chow time I went down to the mess hall newly established for the officers of this area. We used to just go to the head of the enlisted men's line, get the same chow they did, take it on a tray to a special hut, and eat it there. It worked OK but no style, no finesee, strictly a serve yourself deal. So now we eat in a big separate mess hall, chairs, not benches; we sit down and the boys bring us our chow on clean white dishes—we even have napkins, or at least paper towels for napkins.

George Fortune and I went around hiking about the countryside here, and bus riding about; it's a terrific country.

The people are characters. If you ever stop a couple of natives on the street and ask them directions you are in for what amounts to a vaudeville skit. They don't speak American ,of course, but their own dialogue, so you have to be mighty sharp, and hang on tight from the start if you want to keep up with them. They will never tell you what to do exactly, which is what you want, but they will discuss all angles of the question, passing the ball back and forth, very courteous, very helpful very verbose—and you never get away. A case in point occured one day when, on a short leave. I took a side trip to Loch Lomond from Glasgow, with Fortune. Near the Lock we ran into a couple of British commanders, both of them straight out of Dickens. One of them—about 55, average height—was strikingly handsome, looked like a Roman emperor—white hair, cold blue eyes, acquiline nose. The other was a ruddy, red haired character, roly-poly and cheerful as anything you've ever seen with big red eyebrows that twitched up in the corner. They were both riding bicycles—can you imagine a commander in our navy riding a bicycle And they were both very helpful and very courteous. And they gave us travel instructions for what seemed like hours.

Somewhat bewildered, George and I finally adjourned into the tea room in front of which this windy council had been held. It was in a town at the base of Loch Lomond. British tea rooms are an institution with which we from the states are not acquainted. It is a restaurant, yet not a restaurant as we know it. The bit item, of course is tea. Most of them serve breakfast, tea, luncheon, tea, and high tea. Most of them dont serve dinner. Tea in this particular place, which I think was the best tea room there was a big pot of wonderful tea for two, plenty of bit on the table at a good place and strawberry jam, dark brown Scotch bread, scones, which here are sweetish spongy bread, not bad, served cold), and cakes, which are cupcakes, not very sweet, rather plain, but sometimes served in a pie crust—what next. Anyhow there is quite a but on the table at a good place and you help yourself. The tea is very warming and you like to be warmed, and the food is quite filling. They say the people around here are happiest if they can have a cup of tea about once an hour.

The people are very quiet in tea rooms. You can hear a pin drop and so help me in some tea rooms they talk in whispers. You know I'm not particularly loud but by George when I and some other officer come in for some tea you would think from the contrast in the little noise of our conversation that we were a couple of wild hyennas. However I done believe they hold it against us. Yankees, they call us, and I believe they are mildly amused.

This country is full of kids. The cold must wake the people up in the morning too early to go back to sleep and too early to get up or something. But anyway the streets and lanes and byways are full of the rosiest faced looking little characters you could possibly imagine. And they all want goom, or gom, whichever it is.

To appreciate a lake, one has to see it with the sun on it or at least a clear sky over it. Loch Lomond under a gray sky isn't particuarly impressive. I believe we came there by the low road, instead of the high road; anyhow we landed at the foot of the loch, which they say is the least impressive part. At the head, it is supposed to come right up against snow covered mountains. However, the countryside is very beautiful, and on a warm, sunny day it must be utterly delightful.

You would love this country. It's old. And some of the little villages—they were built in the year one, and apparently by itsy-bitsy. They're wee, I went into a wee store in one of them the other day and there were two wee old ladies behind the wee little counter stacked with tiny merchandise. They stood breathless, nd stared, kind of scared of me I think with by big fur-collared wool coat on. I haven't felt so shy in years. It was too wee to be true. It must have been a dream but I know it was true.

Then there was the graveyard where the caretaker casually showed us a couple of tombstones, of, hold your hat, we're going for a long ride into history—the twelfth century. What next! I expect to meet a Northern Druid any day now.

GIFT LONG DISTANCE CALL

Donlad Thomas, aviation metalsmith in the U. S. Navy, won first prize at a Church Door Canteen in Jenkintown, Pa., which was a gift long distance phone call to relatives in Nevada City. He talked with his sister, Mrs. Ralph Pierce in this city. He conveyed Christmas and New Years greetings, through her, to his friends in Nevada City.

FORUM MEETING

The January forum meeting of the Grass Valley Business and Professional Women's Club will be held Wednesday evening in Bret Harte Inn at 7:30 o'clock. Mrs. Arletta Douglas, international relations chairman, will have charge of the program.

AMERICAN INCONSISTENCY IN YEAR 1944

By ERWIN D. CANHAM

Americans enter 1944, which may well be the world's great year of decision, in a mood of almost unbelievable inconsistency.

On the one hand, about 10,000,000 of them are under arms, making noble sacrifices, and on the other hand a railroad strike—incredible potential blow to the war effort—is actually threatened.

On the one hand, millions of mothers and fathers, wives and loved ones, are superbly supporting the nation's effort, and on the other hand greed and selfishness run rampant in farm and factory, countinghoues and congress.

We have still not discovered, for our domestic resolve, the moral equivalent of air bombardment or invasion threats. We are still a people three thousand miles or more from war. We are still a nation wallowing in a great industrial boom, in unprecedented prosperity. The resultant buying orgy of this Christmas season was grotesque and embarrassing. Most shelves and counters are stripped as bare as if a horde of locusts had descended upon them, leaving misfits and rejects. A Crhistmas boom was the last thing we needed to stabilize our economy.

Moreover, we are still a grievously over-optimistic people. The recent Moscow, Cairo, and Teheran conferences seem to have made people all the more certain of an early ending of the war. Yet sober analysis shows the cross-channel invasion still some months aff, a Russian break through into really crucial German territory unlikely, saturation bombing of the Reich still a long way from being thorough and perhaps not even up to schedule, the Italian campaign still in heavy going, and the road to Tokyo long and painful.

It seems, too, that we had several misfortunes that the people have not fully realized. Germany apparently was in a rather tough spot two or three months ago, after the Sicilian campaign and the Russian burst along the Dniepe Germany, in effect, was dazed and perhaps even tottering. But we—Russia, Britain, America—were unable to press our advantage. The Germans reformed their forces in Russia, prevented an Italian debacle, and girded themselves internally for a winter of bombing. We apparently missed another boat.

Perhaps as the New Year opens, the American people will realize how much of their task still lies ahead. Perhaps the selfish pressure groups which have worked their will on congress will find their hold weakened by the protesting voice of the voters. Perhaps the strike threats will lessen, and the means of controlling war profits will become more workable. Perhaps the administration will realize that its primary war time duty at home is to achieve the highest possible degree of internal unity.

There is one key to the whole situation. It is especially appropriate to think of at the Christmas season. It is unselfishness. For selfishness is the one outstanding source of our present troubles. There is political selfishness, and economic selfishness. There is greed for power, and for riches. Labor and capital, politicians and propagandists are all equally cursed by it.

Wars were never won, nor stayed won, on such bases. The United States, it seems evident, needs a serious awakening. That awakening will come, and speedily, when people listen to the message that comes from their men in service at the world's far corners. Americans are being supremely unselfish today, Americans are making great sacrifices. They are achieving noble deeds. But for the most part they are the Americans who have come to grops with their problems under fire, and have turned to God. There are a great many of them; the Americans manning the Navy and the Merchant Marine, the Americans flying the skies everywhere, the Americans slogging through the jungle swamps of the South Pacific and the muddy mountain tracks of Italy. Mammon does not fly in a B 17 over Bremen nor wade at dawn across a coral beach. Men at those times turn to God. We need this awareness of God in the halls of congress, in the labor union councils, in the corporation offices. Our problem is as simple—and as difficult—as that.

Today officials are predicting vast American battle casualties, saying that is the one thing that will awaken the nation. Must we take this fatalistic view? Is there not enough moral conscience in the stay at home part of the nation to rouse our dormant awareness? Must we not at least, should our clarian call day and night until all shall hear? The need is very simple, very clear, It is "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God."

Dutch Officer Will Be Laymeth Club Speaker

At a joint meeting of the Grass Valley and Nevada City Rotary clubs at luncheon at which steaming trays of wild ducks were served, Capt. D. L. Asjest of the Royal Dutch Air Force, described one of the opening attacks of the Jap air men on the island of Java.

Capt. Asjest said that he was one of a number of Dutch pilots who rose to meet the invading air armada. At the height of the air battle he recounted that far below he noted his own home burst into flames as the result of incendiary bombs showered down by the enemy despite the defense of the score of Dutch planes In fact the majority of Dutch planes were shot in the Japs initial attacks.

Fortunately Capt. Asjes' wife and young son managed to escape and a little later the Dutch pilots who survived were transferred to Australia, where Capt. Asjes became an instructor to new air recruits. With his family he is now visiting in Grass Valley.

Program chairman was Curran A. Heath. The club nimrods providing the roast duck dinner were Beryl Robinson and Helm E. Kjorlie.

BORN

EDWARDS—In Nevada City, Nevada County, December 31, 1943, to Mr. and Mrs. Chester Edwards of Grass Valley, a son.

THE POCKETBOOK of KNOWLEDGE

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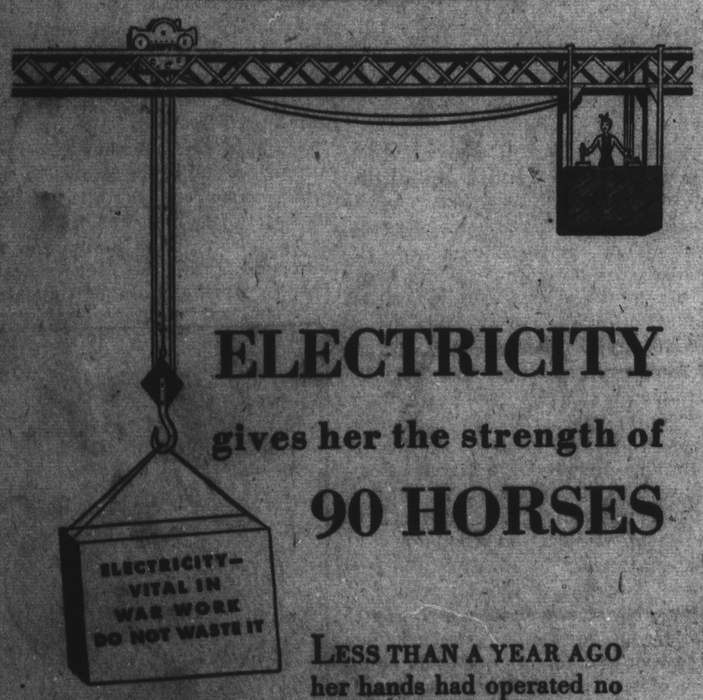
SHEETS OF PLASTIC ARE JOINED BY A NEW TYPE OF SEWING MACHINE EMPLOYING HEAT GENERATING ELECTRIC WAVES INSTEAD OF THREAD
NEW LUGGAGE MATERIAL IS BLOTTING PAPER IMPREGNATED WITH SYNTHETIC RUBBER, WHICH IS HARD WEARING, RESISTANT TO OILS, GREASE, AND SOLVENTS
THE WORLD'S LARGEST CARBURETOR PLANT EMPLOYS THREE TIMES AS MANY WOMEN AS MEN

This little lady lifts 40,000 pounds



ELECTRICITY gives her the strength of 90 HORSES

LESS THAN A YEAR AGO her hands had operated no machine more powerful than a home vacuum cleaner. Now she, and 350,000 other California women, active, keen and alert, are doing man-sized jobs in the war plants.

Huge cranes, operated entirely by women, hoist heavy gun barrels and gun mounts, womens' hands run drill and punch presses, pull levers, press buttons in scores of noisy, war-busy manufacturing plants.

Electricity is the power for their work and with amazing aptitude these 350,000 women are operating intricate machines as easily as they run their home washing machine or kitchen mixer.

When this war ends, electricity will again work for these women in their homes. It will again do the work of housekeeping by means of cheap and easy-to-use electric appliances.

We salute California's women war workers. They are hastening the Day when Victory and Unconditional Surrender bring Peace to the World.

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